

Dick Worthen examines the remains of a deer he determined was killed by a predator.

Division of Wildlife Resources

## Range rides offer Nature insight

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Herald Correspondent
After five hours in the saddle, eight dusty riders descended from Mahogany Mountain. The wranglers were volunteers temporarily deputized as range riders to aid in a spring analysis of big game and range conditions.

Their range ride covered territory from Grove Creek in Pleasant Grove to Heissett's Hollow. This ride was just one of many rides organized by the state's Division of Wildlife Resources. The primary purpose is to evaluate the effects of winter's hardship on game and their habitat.

The Division of Wildlife Resources encourages anyone interested in wildlife, hunting, horses or outdoors to participate in future

planned range rides.

A fascinating experience is available for those who ride along. Information developed through years of experience from varied sources such as game biologists, conservation officers, Forest Service Rangers and Bureau of Land Management authorities. They explain the intricate balance of wildlife and

critical ecological balances.

DWR game biologist, Dick Worthen, has stood by wildlife with a watchful eye and a helpful hand for 24 years. Worthen directed the recent Mahogany Mountain range ride. His years of experience were evident and helpful as he described range and game

conditions to those who participated on the ride. Participants varied from housewives to mountain men.

Worthen's summary of game conditions was optimistic. "The deer have come through an ideal winter with very little winter stress or loss. Doe numbers have increased which means more fawns will be born this year. Last year's fawns survived and herds are returning to stronger numbers such as before the bad winter of 1983. All indications are that this year's hunt will be another good

year."
Fred Wagstaff, a Forest Service employee in the brush and science laboratory department, explained about a range study being done on Mahogany Mountain. He told the

controlled sagebrush and how winter and deer affect the growth and seeding of plants. It is hoped the study will find ways to stabilize critical feed areas on winter ranges. Worthen says range rides are a good way

Worthen says range rides are a good way for the public to get involved in wildlife management plans. "Many people only get involved during the hunting season and they wonder why deer numbers are down. Range rides help explain many management problems."

Future scheduled rides planned by the Division of Wildlife Resources include April 18 — Billy's Mountain, April 19 — Tank Hollow, April 20 — North and South Hollows east of Mayfield, April 21 — Manti to Six Mile, April 22 — North and south of Willow Creek, April 23 — Ephraim to Pigeon Creek, April 25 — Lasson Draw east of Indianola, April 26 — Pine Canyon, April 26 — Starvation Canyon, and April 27 — Diamond Fork.

For more information about meeting places and times, contact representatives from Division of Wildlife Resource Office.

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## SO FREE

Chief Justice Gordon R. Hall also administered the oath of office to the new 2nd District Juvenile Judge, Olof A. Johansson, 48, a 16-year veteran of the Salt Lake County Attorney's office.

Sainsbury in Salt Lake City. He has, been a deputy Salt Lake County attorney prosecuting major drug cases since 1981.

Eves, 45, a former Garfield County attorney, is to assume his duties in St. George immediately. The governor is expected to an-

Former 9th Circuit Judge J. Phillip Eves was sworn as the state's only 5th District judge by Utah Supreme Court Chief Justice Gordon R. Hall shortly after the confirmation hearings.

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SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — The Utah Senate on Wednesday confirmed the appointments of four judges appointed last week by Gov. Norm Bangerter.

## State Senate confirms four new Utah judges

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